

33 Years Ago at MSC

More than 52,000 attend space center’s first open house in 1964

Reprinted from the Space News Roundup June 24, 1964.

The first public showing of the Manned Spacecraft Center was held June 6 and 7 with over 52,000 persons taking a tour of the Center, and viewing the various displays depicting the past, present and future hardware of the space program.

Another 12,000 visitors toured the center the past two Sunday afternoons. The gates are open to the public from 1 - 5 p.m. each Sunday and will continue to be open until further notice.

Displays in the area between Highway FM 528 as well as those in the lobby of the auditorium will be available for inspection by the visitors.

A movie is also shown at the 600 seat auditorium each half-hour during the hours the center is open to the public.



NASA Photos S64-26277, S64-26269, S64-26264

Left: Visitors check out a rocket model during the first open house held at the center. The capsule was a popular attraction during the open house event. Above: Visitors sit in an engine bell during open house. JSC once again will open its doors to the public Saturday, Aug. 23 (see story Page 3).

Gilruth Center News

New Hours: The Gilruth Center now will remain open until 2 p.m. Saturday and close at 9 p.m. Friday.

Sign up policy: All classes and athletic activities are first come, first served. Sign up in person at the Gilruth Center and show a yellow EAA badge. Classes tend to fill up two weeks in advance. Payment must be made in full, in exact change or by check, at the time of registration. No registration will be taken by telephone. For details, call x30304.

EAA badges: Required for use of the Gilruth Center. Employees, spouses, eligible dependents, NASA retirees and spouses may apply for photo identification badges from 7:30 a.m.-9 p.m. Monday-Friday; and 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays. Cost is \$10. Dependents must be between 16 and 23 years old.

Softball: Registration is under way for summer softball leagues. Cost is \$275 per team for competitive leagues, \$200 for recreational leagues.

Basketball: registration is under way for men's summer basketball leagues for play on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Cost is \$315 per team.

NASA Fitness Challenge: runs through Aug. 31. Call x30301 for more information.

Complete Weight Control Program: starts June 24 with sessions on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. For more information call x30301 or x30302.

Hatha Yoga: A stress relieving, stretching and breathing exercise routine to unite body, mind and spirit. Classes meet from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Thursdays. Cost is \$40 for eight weeks.

Nutrition intervention program: A six-week program to learn more about the role diet and nutrition play in health, including lectures, private consultations with a dietitian and blood analysis. Program is open to all employees, contractors and spouses. For more information call Tammie Shaw at x32980.

Defensive driving: One-day course is offered once a month. Next class is June 21. Pre-registration required. Cost is \$25.

Stamp club: Meets at 7 p.m. every second and fourth Monday in Rm. 216.

Weight safety: Required courses for employees wishing to use the weight room will be offered from 8-9:30 p.m. June 26 and July 17. Pre-registration is required. Cost is \$5. Annual weight room use fee is \$90. Additional family members are \$50.

Exercise: Low-impact class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays. Cost is \$24 for eight weeks.

Aikido: Martial arts class meets from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday. Cost is \$35 per month. New classes begin the first of each month.

Aerobics: Classes meet from 5:15-6:15 p.m. Monday, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Cost is \$32 for eight weeks.

Ballroom dancing: Beginner classes meet from 7-8:15 p.m. Thursdays. Intermediate and advanced classes meet from 8:15-9:30 p.m. Cost is \$60 per couple.

Country and western dancing: Beginner class meets 7-8:30 p.m. Monday. Advanced class meets 8:30-10 p.m. Monday. Cost is \$20 per couple.

Fitness program: Health Related Fitness Program includes a medical screening examination and a 12-week individually prescribed exercise program. For more information call Larry Wier at x30301.

Gilruth Home Page: Check out all activities at the Gilruth online at: <http://www4.jsc.nasa.gov/ah/exceaa/Gilruth/Gilruth.htm>

Ticket Window

The following discount tickets are available for purchase in the Bldg. 11 Exchange Store from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Monday-Thursday and 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Friday. For more information, call x35350 or x30990.

Loving Feelings Concert: 8 p.m. Sept. 9 at the Summit. Tickets are \$38.

Belize trip: June 22-27. Cost is \$999 per person for divers, \$849 per person for non-divers.

Costa Rica trip: good through June 30. Cost is \$935 per person.

Houston Astros Baseball: Field box seats \$18. Astros vs. Cleveland Indians 7 p.m. July 2. Purchase tickets by June 23.

EAA cruises: Seven-day cruise to Caribbean leaving from Houston in November. Prices vary depending on cabin choices. For more information call Dick McMinimy at x34037.

Astroworld: \$22.75. Season pass \$56.75. Multi-visit \$37.50

Waterworld: \$11.50.

Moody Gardens: Tickets are \$9.50 for 2 of 4 events.

Space Center Houston: Adult \$8.95; children (4-11) \$6.40.

Seaworld: Adult \$27.25; children(3-11)\$18.25.

Schlitterbahn: Adult \$20.25; children \$17.50.

Splashtown: Adult \$14.50; children (3-9) \$11.50.

Movie discounts: General Cinema, \$5.25; AMC Theater, \$4.50; Sony Loew's Theater, \$4.75.

JSC logo shirts: Polo style, \$23. T-shirt, \$10.

Stamps: Book of 20, \$6.40.

Orbit: The book "Orbit" by Jay Apt, Mike Helfert and Justin Wilkinson is on sale for \$28.

Metro tickets: Passes, books and single tickets available.

Softball leagues now forming; basketball leagues available

Registration is currently under way at the Gilruth Center for summer softball leagues and there is still room to join in summer basketball.

Softball league registration ends June 20, with the season commencing the week of June 30.

The men's B competitive will play on Tuesday and Wednesday nights; the men's C competitive on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights; mixed C recreational on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday nights; and the men's open double-header will play Monday nights.

The Employee Activities Association policy requires every player to have an Employees Activities Association picture badge or blue outside player badge in his or her possession at all times. NASA civil service badges will no longer be accepted for this purpose.

Only official and completed rosters will be accepted during sign-ups. Fees are \$275 per team for competitive leagues and \$200 per team for recreational league, and are payable upon registration. Teams are required to have five or more players with Employees Activity Association badges on the field at all times. There is a 10-game minimum guarantee and there are no restrictions on individuals playing on multiple teams in different leagues. Teams may start games with eight players. Competitive leagues will be awarded T-shirts to first place teams in each league. Recreational leagues have no awards or playoffs and use only one umpire. Registration ends Friday, June 20.

There is still time to join a summer basketball league. Employees can sign up for men's B on Tuesday; men's over 35 on Wednesday or men's C on Thursday. Cost is \$315 per team.

For more information, call the Gilruth Center at x33345.

NASA night to feature ‘Mission to Mir’ IMAX film

Space Center Houston will host a NASA night for JSC civil service employees and their families to preview the latest IMAX film release.

Badged employees and family members may enter Space Center Houston free beginning at 5 p.m. Friday, June 27 for the first showing of "Mission to Mir." Tickets to the new IMAX film will be distributed and the film will play beginning at 6:30 p.m. and run until all NASA guests have had the opportunity to see the film.

The movie, "Mission to Mir," was produced in cooperation with the cosmonauts and astronauts who have participated in the last four missions to the Russian Mir Space Station. With a cast of 36 Russian, American and international partner space-farers, the film documents three *Atlantis*-Mir dockings and includes the first IMAX footage of a Soyuz launch.

In order to film the forty-minute feature, eight astronauts received extensive training in the use of the bulky 85 pound IMAX cameras.

"Of course in space it's zero gravity, but the camera has a lot of inertia," said Astronaut Charlie Precourt. "Once we got it moving, it was a challenge to try and stop it from crashing into a wall."

"Mission to Mir" is the latest of five IMAX films produced in space. The 15/70 IMAX format uses film that is 10 times the size of the 35mm standard. IMAX films are shown in specially constructed theaters with wrap-around digital sound and oversized screens. Only 150 such theaters exist. Space Center Houston houses the largest IMAX in Texas.

The film highlights the new international partnership in space and the complexities of life in zero gravity conditions. "I think audiences will come away feeling that it is possible for people of different nationalities and cultures to live and work together on such an important venture as space exploration," said IMAX producer Toni Meyers.

Crews on Earth also filmed extensively at both JSC and the Star City cosmonaut facility, providing a unique look at Russian and American training techniques.